

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

October

YEAR

2001

SIGNATURE

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In Charge of HSA

DATE

November 9, 2001

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
 NOAA / National Weather Service
 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230
 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).

[X] No flood stages were reached in this HSA for the month above.

A slightly active weather pattern during the first half of October was replaced by a quiet pattern during the second half of the month. Rainfall was below average. Scattered to numerous showers and Thunderstorms occurred on the 4th and 5th, and from the 9th through the 12th. Widespread thunderstorms over the Big Country on the 10th, produced rises on the Clear Fork of the Brazos. Three river statements were issued for Hawley as the river rose near its bankfull of 10 feet.

For the month of October, San Angelo received 1.48 inches of rainfall, which is 0.92 inches above normal. San Angelo has received 14.93 inches since January 1st (3.65 inches below normal). Abilene received 0.49 inches of rain for the month of October, which is 2.02 inches below normal. For the year so far, Abilene has received 17.50 inches of rain, which is 4.39 inches below normal.

Dredging on Lake Nasworthy in the Concho Valley is 75 percent complete, and should be done by February. This will restore around 2500 acre-feet of capacity to the reservoir, as 3.8 million cubic yards of sediment will have been removed.

Reservoirs remain very low over western sections of the HSA. In the Concho Valley, Twin Buttes and O.C. Fisher were down to 4 percent (7120 acre feet) and 3 percent (4120 acre feet) of conservation capacity, respectively. The city of San Angelo earlier this year widened the pipeline, so it now can pump from O.H. Ivie and Spence reservoirs simultaneously. The city has rights to 15000 acres from the O.H. Ivie Reservoir and 3000 acres from Spence Reservoir yearly. Demand is around 22000 acre feet.

The city of Ballinger has had to purchase water from the Colorado Municipal Water District. A 13,000 foot pipeline was laid in late September, and began pumping 1 million gallons a day from the E.V. Spence Reservoir down the Colorado River to the pump station at Lake Ballinger. Lake Ballinger has dropped so low that it has dropped past the rod used to measure the lake. The city of Ballinger is in stage III of water rationing, which means no outside watering.

The city of Sweetwater is no longer able to pump water from its normal source, the Oak Creek reservoir near Blackwell. Earlier this Spring, the city switched its water supply to a well field near Roscoe. The 30 wells were developed at a cost of 6.7 million dollars and were completed just this year. Sweetwater residents have been living with water rationing since January 2000. The Oak Creek reservoir has fallen to 4440 acre feet at the end of September. The low water levels also threaten to close a power station at Blackwell. According to a January 11, 2000 article from the San Angelo Standard Times, the pumps at the power plant can still operate at an elevation of

1970 feet. At the end of October the lake elevation had fallen to 1971.25 feet.

The city of Abilene is looking ahead to possible future water needs. A pipeline is under construction that will eventually bring O.H. Ivie reservoir water to the city. The pipeline is expected to be completed in 2 years and will be able to pump 13 million gallon a day. Abilene is currently getting much of its water from the Hubbard Creek Reservoir, 42 miles to the northeast of the city. The Hubbard contract allows the city to pump 28 million gallons a day from May through September and an average of 18 million gallons a day for the rest of the year. Lake Fort Phantom is the normal water supply for the city. Its water is being held in reserve and to cool an electrical power plant.

River Products Issued

FLW 0

FLS 0

RVS 3

RVA 31

RVD 31